

GRANT SUMMARY

Date filled out: April 5, 2006

Grant Information:

1. **Grant Agreement Number:** 03-219-553-1

2. **Project Title:** Measurement of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Sea Otter Tissues

3. **Project Purpose - Problem Being Addressed:** The southern sea otter population is not expanding as predicted and an unusually high percentage of the population along the California coast dies from disease. Data from a small number of otters suggests those that die from disease tend to have higher concentrations of persistent organic pollutants (POPs, e.g., polychlorinated biphenyls, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, chlorinated pesticides, polybrominated diphenyl ethers, and butyl tins). This project will investigate the relationship between concentrations of POPs and sea otter mortality.

4. Project Goals

- a. **Short-term Goals:** The short-term goals of the project are to measure the concentrations of POPs in the livers of 230 sea otters that have been necropsied by California Department of Fish and Game Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center, and test the relationship between POP concentrations and primary and contributing causes of death, year of death, location of stranding, gender, age and pathology.
- b. **Long-term Goals:** If POPs are found to be associated with cause of death in sea otters, the data for those POPs with the greatest effect will be used to guide decisions regarding possible management actions. This project also will provide a baseline for future measurements of POPs in sea otters along the California coast.

5. **Project Location:** From San Mateo County through San Luis Obispo county. The approximate center of the area is Latitude 36.902 N Longitude -122.755

a. **Physical Size of Project:** Approximately 300 kilometers of coastline

b. **Counties Included in the Project:** Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Luis Obispo

c. **Legislative Districts:** (Assembly and Senate) Assembly = 27, 33; Senate = 15, 11

6. **Which SWRCB program is funding this grant?**

X Prop 13 ☐ Prop 40 ☐ Prop 50 ☐ EPA 319(h) ☐ Other

Grant Contact:

Name: Bob Geyer

Job Title: Public Works Assistant Director

Organization: City of Watsonville

Webpage Address: <http://www.ci.watsonville.ca.us/>

Address: 320 Harvest Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076

Phone: 831-768-3149

Fax: 831-763-4060

E-mail: Bgeyer@ci.watsonville.ca.us

Grant Time Frame:

From: April 2004

To: December 31, 2006

Project Partner Information: California Department of Fish and Game; University of California, Davis; Central Coast Long-term Environmental Assessment Network

Nutrient and Sediment Load Reduction Projection: (If applicable) NA